

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SCI-06 PM-07 L-03 H-03 NSC-10 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01

ACDA-19 MC-02 RSR-01 MBFR-03 SAJ-01 /111 W

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R 271609Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2150

NASA WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TSPA, XG

SUBJECT: ISSUES AT EUROPEAN SPACE CONFERENCE INTERNATIONAL  
MEETING 7/31/73.

REF: A. BRUSSELS 4292; B. COPENHAGEN 1722

1. SUMMARY: FRENCH INSISTANCE ON APPROVAL OF L3S IS THE  
ISSUE INFLUENCING ALL DECISIONS AT SUBJECT CONFERENCE.  
END SUMMARY.

2. LOUET, FONOFF REP IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL AND  
SCIENTIFIC DEVELOPMENT (MINISTER CHARBONNEL) TOLD SCICON  
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TODAY THAT FRANCE EXPECTS TO SUPPORT POST-APOLLO COOPERATION,

PROVIDING THAT IT HAS SUFFICIENT FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE L3S FROM THE OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES. OTHERWISE, HE SAID, AS FRANCE HAS WARNED ITS EUROPEAN PARTNERS, IT WILL VOTE AGAINST THE NASA/ESRO INTER-AGENCY AGREEMENT, THEREBY BLOCKING AUTHORIZATION FOR ESRO TO SIGN THE AGENCY AGREEMENT. LOUET SAID THAT IF A SPACE PROGRAM INCLUDING L3S, SATELLITES, AND THE SORTIE MODULE DEVELOPS, THEN NATURALLY THE FRENCH EXPECT THAT A EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY WILL EVOLVE. HOWEVER, IF THERE IS NO L3S, THERE WILL BE NO PROGRAM AND NO ESA.

3. NASA EUROPEAN REP VISITED ROME JULY 25. MORNING MEETING WITH TRELLA HAD TO BE DELAYED UNTIL LATE AFTERNOON BECAUSE OF MEETING OF ITALIAN SCIENCE MINISTER BUCALOSSO WITH ESC PRESIDENT HANIN. LATTER PROPOSED TO GOI THAT THEY SHOULD INCREASE THEIR CURRENT TOKEN CONTRIBUTION TO L3S SOMETHING APPROACHING 5 TO 6 PERCENT. THIS CAN ONLY BE ACCOMPLISHED BY AN EQUAL REDUCTION OF FUNDS CURRENTLY AVAILABLE FOR SPACELAB PROGRAM. TRELLA EXPRESSED DOUBT THAT GOI WOULD BE ABLE TO HAVE FIRM POSITION BY JULY 31 PRIMARILY BECAUSE RESPONSIBLE MINISTERS HAVE ONLY RECENTLY ASSUMED THEIR POSITIONS.

4. YESTERDAY ESRO OFFICIALS DISCUSSED PARIS MEETINGS HELD JULY 25 AND 26 WITH NASA REP. DISCUSSION CONFIRMED RESULTS OF JULY 25 MEETING AS REPORTED IN REF A. JULY 26 WORKING GROUP MEETING TO REVIEW LANGUAGE OF GOVERNMENT AND AGENCY LEVEL AGREEMENTS WAS MOST PRODUCTIVE AND AGREEMENT ON BOTH DOCUMENTS WAS REACHED AT THIS LEVEL. AT THIS MEETING FRENCH WORKING LEVEL REPS DISPLAYED POSITIVE AND CONSTRUCTIVE ATTITUDE.

5. COMMENT: BELIEVE FRENCH WILL TAKE A STRONG POSITION AS OUTLINED IN REFERENCES AND PARAGRAPH 2 ABOVE. THE MECHANISM BY WHICH THEY WOULD BLOCK ESRO FROM SIGNING THE NASA/ESRO AGREEMENT MAY BE CHALLENGED ON A LEGAL BASIS. IRWIN

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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